(c) whether the work on this project has been improved further;

(d) if so, the amount utilised so far; and

(e) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (e) The National Highways Development Project (NHDP) comprises Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting the four metros, *viz.* Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and North-South and East-West (N-S and E-W) corridors connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari with Kochi-Salem spur and Silchar to Porbandar respectively. These National Highways are being improved from existing 2-lane highways to 4-lane divided carriageway. An amount of Rs. 6363 crores, which includes expenditure on NHDP and other projects being implemented by National Highways Authority of India, has been spent upto February, 2002. GQ component was originally scheduled for completion by December, 2004, which is now targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003. N-S and E-W corridors were originally scheduled for completion by December, 2009, which are also now targeted for completion by December, 2007.

Improvement of NH in Assam

1302. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been sanctioned to improve the National Highway stretched from Rangia to Jonai in Assam in the current year of 2001-2002;

(b) whether the work would be done by Border Roads Organisation;

(c) if so, what is the time-frame; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C.KHANDURI): (a) The stretch from Rangia to Jonai in Assam comprises two National Highway (i) NH 31 from Rangia to Baihata Chariali and (ii) NH 52 from Baihata Chariali to Jonai. On Rangia-Baihata Chariali stretch of NH-31, one work amounting to Rs. 302.99 lakhs and on Baihata Chariali-Jonai stretch of NH-52, two works amounting to Rs. 383.80 lakhs have been sanctioned during 2001-02 to improve the National Highways.

(b) to (d) Above works will be carried out by State Government of Assam because NH 31 is entrusted to the State Government and works on NH 52 had been sanctioned before entrustment of the NH from State Government to Border Roads Organization. The works are targeted for completion by April, 2003.

CNG buses in Delhi

1303. DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of transport buses required to cater to the needs of the commuters and the public in general in Delhi; and

(b) the number of CNG buses at present on Delhi roads and how far the needs are fulfilled with diesel buses indicating the plan to phase out the diesel buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) Regulation of transport services in Delhi is primarily the concern of Government of National Capital Territory